

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 IOE-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12

OES-03 AID-05 HEW-02 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 SAB-01 /107 W

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P R 301605Z APR 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2495

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3060

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: WHO IS

SUBJ: DISCUSSION WITH WHO DG MAHLER ON HIS RECENT  
ALGERIA TRIP AND ON ISRAELI-ARAB, PRG AND DRB ISSUES  
AFFECTING 28TH WHA

REF: STATE 95257

1. REFERENCE PARA 1 OF REFTEL, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
ON TACTIC SUGGESTED BY FEDELE BEING SOUGHT AND WILL BE  
REPORTED ASAP. SINCE DG MAHLER'S RETURN FROM ALGERIA  
LAST WEEKEND, THERE IS GREAT RELUCTANCE ON PART OF WHO  
SECRETARIAT TO DISCUSS ISRAELI-ARAB ISSUE WITH ANYONE  
OUTSIDE WHO (SEE BELOW).

2. REFERENCE PARA 3 OF REFTEL, MISSOFF MET WITH DG  
MAHLER APRIL 28 ON THE SUBJECT OF HIS RECENT TRIP TO  
ALGERIA.

3. MAHLER OPENED CONVERSATION BY REFERRING ANGRILY TO  
A UPI RELEASE OF APRIL 25, DESCRIBING THE PURPOSE OF  
HIS TRIP TO ALGERIA AND MENTIONING THE POSSIBILITY OF  
ARTICLE SEVEN ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL DURING THE FORTH-  
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COMING WHA BY CERTAIN ARAB BLOC COUNTRIES. UPI RELEASE

HAS NOT YET APPEARED IN EUROPEAN PRESS OR HERALD TRIBUNE  
BUT WAS BROADCAST OVER SWISS RADIO.

4. MAHLER THEN STATED THERE WERE NO CONCRETE RESULTS FROM HIS TRIP. HE EXPLAINED SINCE THE ALGERIANS DID NOT BRING UP ISRAEL, NEITHER DID HE. HE MADE A BIG POINT OF REPEATING IT HAD NEVER BEEN HIS INTENTION TO RECOMMEND OR EVEN DISCUSS WHAT THE ALGERIANS SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT DO CONCERNING ISRAEL. "SO THERE IS NO NEW NEWS", HE SAID.

5. MAHLER THEN RETURNED TO THE UPI RELEASE, SAYING HE WOULD FIRE ANYONE ON HIS STAFF IF HE FOUND ANY EVIDENCE OF A LEAK ON HIS ALGERIA TRIP. HE EMPHASIZED HIS POSITION OF NEUTRALITY ON POLITICAL MATTERS AFFECTING WHO IS WELL KNOWN. HE DISAGREED HE HAD EVER INDICATED TO ANYONE, INCLUDING THE US, HE WAS GOING TO ALGERIA TO DISCUSS IMPLICATIONS OF ARTICLE SEVEN ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL. WITH MIXED METAPHORS HE THEN SAID: "NO COUNTRY IS GOING TO PASS THE BUCK INTO THE LAP OF MAHLER".

6. COMMENT: IN DISCUSSIONS WITH WHO ADG FURTHER LATER IN DAY, MISOFF WAS TOLD MAHLER BELIEVES US IS SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON HIS ALGERIA TRIP RESULTING IN UPI RELEASE. FURTH ADDED MAHLER BELIEVES US DID THIS IN EFFORT TO HELP WHO BUT THINKS THE STRATEGY IS WRONG. REPORTING OFFICER TOLD FURTH IT WAS MORE LIKELY A LEAK FROM MAHLER'S STAFF OR FROM SOME OTHER MISSION IN GENEVA. THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT MAHLER WAS RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS HIS ALGERIA TRIP WITH FOREIGN MISSION REPRESENTATIVES. ALTHOUGH HE REMAINED VERY CORDIAL, HIS COMMENT THAT NO COUNTRY IS GOING TO PASS THE BUCK TO MAHLER MAY HAVE BEEN US-DIRECTED.

7. NEW SUBJECT: IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, HOW DOES HE VIEW 28TH WHA IN LIGHT OF ISRAEL, PRG AND DRV ISSUES, MAHLER SAID: "MY APPROACH HAS BEEN AND WILL BE NOT TO ROCK THE BOAT; TO AVOID AT ALL COSTS ANY PROVOCATION, ESPECIALLY ON THE ISRAEL ISSUE. AS FOR PRG AND DRV, THOSE ISSUES WILL MOST LIKELY HAVE BEEN RESOLVED BY THE CONFIDENTIAL

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TIME OF THE ASSEMBLY".

8. COMMENT: THERE IS LITTLE QUESTION MAHLER AND SECRETARIAT ARE APPREHENSIVE AND NERVOUS ON THE ISRAELI ISSUE AND ON WHAT THEY PERCEIVE TO BE SOMEWHAT RISKY EFFORTS BY THE US AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN HELPING WHO OUT. ONCE MAHLER SAID: "THE SITUATION AT THE WHA COULD BE DANGEROUS. BUT IF EVERYONE WILL JUST PLAY IT COOL, IT

COULD ALL WORK OUT". THE IMPLICATION HERE, NOTWITH-  
STANDING THE PAUCITY OF INFORMATION MAHLER PROVIDED ON  
HIS ALGERIA TRIP, IS THAT IF THE US AND OTHERS WILL  
STOP TALKING UP THE ISRAELI-ARAB ISSUE, MAHLER CAN BE  
MORE HOPEFUL AND LESS NERVOUS, AS A RESULT OF HIS  
MEETINGS IN ALGERIA, THAT NOTHING WORSE THAN ARAB  
CENSURE OF ISRAEL WILL OCCUR DURING THE WHA.

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